

July 1972

A PERSONAL MESSAGE: Here is another double issue featuring a complete description of many brands of tape by Mel Phlank. Also a review of "The Big Broadcast" by Frank Buxton. Although my time is limited to evening and weekends now, I still try to answer letters within 2 days and send tapes out withing 5 days...Trading has slowed considerably because I am looking only for certain shows such as SUSPENSE and JACK BENNY. There are now about 300 subscribers to "Hello Again." I would publicly like to thank Bob Joseph for recommending to his readers to subscribe to Hello Again following the demise of Stay Tuned. Bob says refunds have been mailed through the M8s and the rest should be mailed shortly...I hope the bad rains and floods in the East spared the property, lives and collections of our radio friends. Don't keep your collection close to the floor, if in the basement, in case of water... Now on to the news.

DATES: Tom Alexander, Valley Stream Apt B-102, Lansdale, Penn 19446 is looking for correct dates to RUDY VALLEE with Ed Gardner, MURDER AT MIDNIGHT Red Wheels, RICHARD DIAMOND Ice Pick Murder, CISC0 KID Waters of the Flood, FBI Dumb Luck, ROY ROGERS with Matt Barlow, BURNS AND ALLEN Bill Goodwin about to marry the wrong girl...The correct date of JACK BENNY when the gang visits Orson Welles at the studio where he is making a picture is 3/21/43.

DEATHS: Robert Condon, 51, writer for TV and radio, June 13, 1972. Condon wrote for Jim Backus and Dave Garroway on radio...John Erickson, 74, composer, June 18, 1972. Erickson transposed (transcribed) the William Tell Overture for the theme song of the Lone Ranger...Mrs. Hilda Dannay, 55, June 15, 1972. Mrs. Dannay was the wife of Frederic Dannay, co-author of the Ellery Queen mysteries.

PUBLICATIONS AND ACTIVITIES: "To Be Continued," by Ken Weiss and Ed Goodgold; Crown Publishers, 341 pages, \$9.95. In this book are cast listings, studio and director credits, synopsis and photos for all 231 talkie movie serials. Certain credits are missing and there is no critical evaluation but for serial buffs it is an enjoyable book... Larry Herndon, 1830 Highland Dr, Carrollton, Tex 75006 is looking for someone to write a knowledgable article about I LOVE ADVENTURE AND I LOVE A MYSTERY for Remember When...Remember When is a 32-page fan-zine, offset print about many aspects of nostalgia. It comes out about every 2 months. I well recommend it...Is John Cooper still putting out Hero Hobby. I don't receive it and have received concerned letters from others...A recommended review of all current books about the various areas of broadcasting is put out by Christopher Sterling, Temple University, School of Communication, Philadelphia, Penn 19122. It comes out monthly, is about 8 pages and is \$3.50 a year. It covers all areas of communications. Chris also edits the Journal of Broadcasting and has published a few articles on the subject of radio history...

SPECIAL REVIEW: THE BIG BROADCAST by Frank Buxton and Bill Owen, Viking Press, 625 Madison Ave, New York, NY 10022 \$12.95. This is a revision of RADIO'S GOLDEN AGE. It is primarily an encyclopedia of radio programming from 1920 to 1950 with just very few programs beyond that. There are more programs added and in existing ones has corrections and additions, often more detail and script excerpts. Also it lists the first broadcast (year usually), some sponsors, and a few more themes. Complete information on duration, sponsor, time and network is still omitted. It concentrates on personalites, script, and background infor-



\$3.50 IS DUE FOR ANOTHER YEAR IF THE BOX IS CHECKED

mation. There are also special articles such as announcers, commercials, newscasters, soap operas, sound effects men, musicians and 45 more rare photos. It also has a complete index with over 5000 entries. (This will make my quizzes harder). The serious collector will still find some omissions and discrepancies but for a comprehensive encyclopedia of information about radio programs through 1950 I well recommend the book.

MORE PUBS: I still have copies of the complete ESCAPE log put out by Roy Bright for \$1.50. It has synopses of most shows...I also still have a few more copies of MA PERKINS, LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE, AND HEIGH HO SILVER by Charles Stumpf. Its 125 pages is filled with the highlights and sidelights of most of the popular shows. It is \$5.00 plus 25% for handling and postage.

LOGS AND LISTINGS: Still available for a SASE (self addressed stamped envelope) are a complete log of STUDIO 1 and FORD THEATER...Received from Don Pellow, 705 E Chandler, Evansville, Ind 47713 partial listings of many series plus many theme songs with their shows...Ray Stanich, 173 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, NY 11201 has revised his LIGHTS LOG which I offered a few months ago. They are more detailed. They are available from Ray with a SASE with 2 stamps (16¢)...Ray also mentions another source of information for those researching radio shows-network press releases which were mimeographed daily and sent to all newspapers and many libraries, etc...Pat Murray and Ken Neal have helped in getting the few dates I am lacking for SUSPENSE. Still needed are 6/22/54, 7/6/54, and the correct order of shows from 9/7/58-12/28/58. For those who have my SUSPENSE log, if you find cast for those with no cast listed please let me know. Eventually I will type an alphabetical list but I want it as complete as possible. Helpful newspapers are Washington Post, New York Herald Tribune, Detroit News.

QUIZ: Winners of May quiz are Don Koehnemann and Dom Patrissi. A reel of shows went to each one. ANSWERS: 1. Biology 2. Meet Corliss Archer 3. Elm St 4. Ben Bernie 5. The Fiddler 6. Woman of Courage 7. Easter 1937. 1964 was last TV show 8. What's the Name of that Song 9. Fury 10. Hello, Hello, Hello...Keep sending answers in for June quiz.

JULY QUIZ: 1. Adam Hats sponsored 2. Mervyn played 3. Jimmy McCallion, Billy Idelson and Bill Lipton all played 4. What soap opera had a banker for a star? 5. "Sweet Lady" was the theme of 6. Katie, the maid was in what series. 7. Jeff Chandler played in Frontier Town. What was the name of the town. What occupation was played by J. Chandler 8. What series was based on comic strip by Fred Harman 9. Who built the Longbranch in Gunsmoke (full name) 10. Dorothy Roberts had a unique musical distinction. What?...Get your answers in to win a reel of shows. Don and Dom had 8 and 6 right respectively to win May quiz.

PERSONALITIES: Hal Peary sent a nice letter with the following: Cliff Arquette, who was recently hospitalized, is retiring from show business and plans to live in Skymont, Virg with his son. Cliff got the name of Charlie Weaver when he played Uncle Charlie for many years on the GREAT GILDERSLEEVE. Charlie worked at the waterworks and he always gave Gildersleeve, the water commissioner of Sumerfield "hell" about how the waterworks should be run and how they always talked about the snifter valve...Hal Peary is still doing commercials and getting fat at it. His big account is with Gibraltar Savings in California. Hal does all their commercials on radio and TV..On June 5th Walter Tetley (Leroy) was 57 years old. He and Hal guested on the Robert & Lewis Show over KFI in California. Tetley was on GILDERSLEEVE from its

first show until it went off the air in 1958. He is the only cast member with that distinction. He can still sound like Leroy just by lifting his eyebrows a bit when he reaches high for the voice. They had a lot of laughs with Lewis who is doing a good job on the show..... Bob Ellsworth heard from Arthur Godfrey who said he would be doing a 5 minute syndicated show daily in the near future...More on GENE AND GLENN from Ken Rettberg, 172 Manor Circle, East Hartford, Conn 06118. From Theater Organ, Aug 1969 "Feb., 1926-A unique broadcast occurred in Chicago recently. Ralph Emerson (an organist) at the organ in the Barton Studio and Glenn Rowell at the WL3 console, played a duet, although the organs were blocks apart. A mixing board was a factor in this venture." Regarding Ford, he is indeed Ford Rush, who later went on to originate the National Barn Dance, In an issue of Radio Guide, week ending Nov 19, 1938, there is a picture of Ford Rush along with that of his son, Ford Rush Jr. playing a guitar and evidently singing before a mutual mike from Chicago. Later on Gene and Glenn appeared in Hartford on WTIC and perhaps some of the readers remember them on the Miles of Dimes for infantile paralysis on Main Street in Hartford during the '40s...

THE TAPE DECK: Ralph Miller mentions you can get Audio Magnetic Cassette tape, C-60, 3 for \$1.29 from McGee Radio, 1901-07 McGee St, Kansas City, MO...DOUBLESPEEDING: For 3 years I have mentioned the pros and cons about this topic. Last month gave reasons against it. The following is by Jack Miller. Since we have exhausted this topic I probably will not devote much space to it anymore.

DOUBLESPEED AND FIDELITY by Jack Miller

In the June issue of Hello Again an opinion was expressed that doublespeeding raised the normal running frequency of between 4000 cycles and 20,000 cycles to 8000 and 40,000 cycles...This is true, except that the frequency response of these old radio shows never approached 20,000 cycles. The freq. capabilities of the Telephone line between the studio and transmitter dropped off rapidly above 8000 cycles and the low frequencies were down around 100 cycles. So the original program on the air had no better frequency response than this...Even with programs that were syndicated on discs, there was no better response, generally. The cutting stylus was dampened or equalized so that it would not respond to very high frequency signals which it could not reproduce on to the transcription without extreme distortion...It was not until the late 1940's and 50's that the term Hi-Fi truly came into being as the LP record was developed to reproduce frequencies up to 15,000. Still the Telephone Comp. could not provide a phone line for network shows from radio stations that could equal this. So, for the most part the material that we are concerned with in our hobby is between 100 and 8000 cycles at best, Doublespeeding brings it up to 200 and 16,000 cycles and most modern recorders can reproduce this range.....

There will always be disagreement, some will never doublespeed, some always doublespeed and/or doubletrack. If the person you are trading with is satisfied and knows how you dub (dupe), that is important.

LET THE BUYER BEWARE: No new people. I am still trying to find out what happened to Jack Warden of Univ of Washington. All help will be appreciated. Also risks are Tom Cole, Miami (Nostalgia in Miami, Fla), Jim Harmon (very slow in delivering, Rich Casciello, Wil Dufour (is claimed to have kept round robin tapes), Dwight Lindley (Memory Radio). ..If I am incorrect in listing anyone or you have additional information please write.

NEW ADDRESSES: Bernard Feitelberg, 23 Winthrop Rd, Hingham, Mass 02043...Mike Edwards, Sunset Ln, So Dartmouth, Mass 02748...Dave Howe Box 559, NSGA, Winter Harbor, Maine 04693. Dave is temporarily inactive

in trading.

HERE AND THERE-OLD FRIENDS: Ed Peck, 1033 Gypsum, Salina, Kan 67401 just came out with his first catalog. It is well written with Sponsor and network. It is free in exchange for your catalog or 50¢ for others. (For those who want to indicate several sponsors on one show use the word "Multi" for multi sponsored)...Ken Rettberg is still looking for ET's of popular pipe organists and shows of Crumit and Sanderson. Also news broadcasts and documentaries of Dirigibles (other than Herb Morrison's account of the unfortunate Hindenburg). Ken is also looking for home recordings of Yankee Network organist, Francis J Cronin... Gordon Gentry Jr gives the names of 2 blind collectors-Doug Walla, 8601 E Evergreen Hwy, Vancouver, Wash 98664 and Bill Smith, 8611 Patterson Pl, Vancouver, Wash 98664...Francis Ramczyk, 1210 Monica Ln, Madison, Wisc 53704 is looking for Portrait of a Giant-about Arthur Conan Doyle with Hal Stark as narrator. Also for Don MacNeil, 1952 or 53 in which he talks about St. Michael's Orphanage. At this point Fran has no catalog for trading...Jack Hannig, 4226 Don Felipe Dr, Los Angeles Cal 90008 is looking for the 30 episodes of Chandu recently found. Also the 89 Jack Armstrong shows...Al Vesik, 733 San Lucas Ave, Stockton, Cal 95207 attended well over 400 studio broadcasts and has a good collection of tickets to those shows...Walt Hart, 9015 N 10th St, Phoenix, Ariz 85020 is looking for 2 shows from the midwest: CUDDLES AND TUCKY and the CARBORUNDUM HOUR...Don Pellow has reached 20,000 listings including radio programs, movie and TV soundtracks...

HERE AND THERE-NEW FRIENDS: Christopher Sterling has about 250 shows but only one recorder...Duncan Whiteside, Radio-TV, University of Mississippi, University, Miss 38677...Victor Forney, Box 863, Adelphi, MD 20783 is a beginner...David Klaiber, 95-A Grandview Dr, North Tonawanda, NY 14120 has about 6-800 shows and is a magician...Joanne Verigin, Box 66, Escalon, Cal 95320 is a new collector joining our other female friends...Frank Bresee, 8282 Hollywood Blvd, Hollywood, Cal 90069. Frank puts out the Golden Age of Radio Series...Paul Mina, 1636-76 St, Brooklyn, NY 11214...Carl Rufe, 2834 Charlotte Ave, Easton, Penn 18042...Richard Dudge, 24 West Jamestown, Stockton, Cal 95207 uses C-60 cassettes and is especially interested in Inner Sanctum... Glenn Hoidale, 1308 Avalon, Apt D, El Paso, Tex 79925...Hans Rosen, Bjornsonsgatan 126, 2Tr, S-161 56 Bromma, Sweden. Hans is especially interested in Country and Western, Grand Ole Opry...

NEW PROGRAMS: I don't know of anyone who actually has the 36 FAT MAN and 18 30-min SUPERMAN except Bill Hillman in Canada. John Olsen and others are expected to get them and John sent me the list of titles of both. A few are FAT MAN: Murder Squares the Triangle; Murder Makes a Hem; Murder by Mail; Murder pays Dividends, and many others...SUPERMAN: Deadly Double; Voice from the Grave; The Vanishing Ships and others...John Olsen, 2229 SE Pine St, Hillsboro, Oreg 97123 is still cataloging the ET's at the Oregon Historical Society and more are coming in. By the end of the summer he hopes to have the complete set of PHILCO RADIO TIME from ET's--3 years worth...Fran Ramczyk has about 43 new Rathbone-Bruce SHERLOCK HOLMES with no commercials...Gordon Gentry, Rt 2 Box 1304, Camas, Wash 98607 has several episodes of Cecil and Sally, a show that was syndicated around 1931. Gordon quotes from the Oregonian, Nov 3, 1933. "Cecil and Sally with their company of radio personalities, which have entertained millions during the last 5 years will be here in person on the stage presenting a 2-act sketch similar to their radio programs. The familiar Aunt Bess, Widow Mason, Dr. Mason and others will be present to put over their funniest days."...Some people are writing to me about programs others are getting. The programs I have are mentioned as followed: IN MY COLLECTION: (from Joe Hehn)

ADVENTURE PARADE, CIMARRON TAVERN, SPARROW AND THE HAWK; (from others)
 6 CRIME CLUB, several FRONTIER TOWN, many 1953-55 GUNSMOKE, Sus, CBS;
 first GULF SCREEN GUILD SHOW; 1/8/39: several new 42-43 Jack Benny; 3
 1954 LETS PRETEND; MMON MULLINS; SUSPENSE, Yellow wallpaper, 7/29/48;
 Autolite, CBS; new 1947-SKY KING, Message in Code; WORMWOOD FOREST:

RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL: Van Christo is sponsoring Fibber McGee soon on WCRB, Boston...BANYON is now under way. Famous radio broadcasts and personalities will be used in this WB-TV series...WGR at Buffalo, NY marked its 50th anniversary recently. Rather than use recorded episodes they featured a weekend of record hits from the past. Alumni include Buffalo Bob Smith, Col. Stoopnagle, Jack Smart (Fat Man), and Fran Striker...KRLA in Pasadena, Cal (1110) is having great success with its "Same Time...Same Station" show on Sundays at 10:00 PM. Stars recently heard and soon to be heard are Judy Canova, Jim Ameche, Eddie Firestone (a complete THAT BREWSTER BOY will be heard on July 23, Marvin Miller (hear AUTHOR'S PLAYHOUSE and ESCAPE, Easy Money). In the fall will be appearances by Gosden and Correll, Bing Crosby, Harry von Zell, Jimmy Durante..

MORE ON CLARA, LU AND EM: by Don Koehnemann---When Lu played by Isabel Carothers died in 1937 (Isabel Carothers died) the show was discontinued by Clara and Em. In 1942, sponsored by Pillsbury, the show was revived with Lu played by Harriet Allyn, another former classmate of the girls from Northwestern. More on July 5, 1934 show. The girls were in New York City the whole week in order to appear on the Palmolive Beauty Box Theater, July 3rd. The string quartette who performed the theme for the early shows was under the direction of Walter Plau-fuss. While they were in New York they had many pictures taken with radio personalities...Don has many pictures of the group.

THE NEW YORK FRIARS CLUB gave a testimonial to Jack Benny, George Burns, and Jesse Plock. The largest gross ever, \$195,000 was raised for charities. Joey Bishop was the toastmaster. The May 17th affair had a star studded audience.

LATE NEWS AND TIDBITS: Henry Kjellander, 5527 Grape Rd, Houston, Tex 77035. Henry does limited trading at present

EDITORIAL:::Because of a letter just received I am going to take one of my few stands for something...RISKS: Some of my readers don't like the fact that I list trading risks although no one has had the courtesy to write me directly. If readers have problems with exceptionally slow, poor, or NO deliveries they write me. I then write the person trying to resolve the difficulty. I almost never get a response. I then mention their names. Almost invariably other people write in agreeing with me. I, personally, have apparently gotten stuck by Jack Warden. After over 3 months and 4 letters-no response. If a person is ill or has recorder problems just let me know. When I talk about slow deliveries it means several months. People have gotten gypped and I feel I should help cut this down. Please write if you know anything about the people I list. After mentioning Owens Pomeroy, Jim Harmon, and Dwight Lindlay last month I got several letters agreeing with me-but no letters from people who disagreed--and no response from the people involved. On the positive I have been successful in RESOLVING close to 10 problems...I didn't mean to come on this strong but people should have the "guts" and courtesy to express their views to the people involved. If readers disagree with something I write I will mention it. I try to present all sides without taking a stand but you'll have to forgive me here....

LATE NEWS AND TIDBITS: Still have many more copies of the Collectors List for \$1.00 to subscribers (\$2.00 to others). Should have a supplement ready soon. Send in information if you aren't on it: name, address, age, job, number of shows, programs especially interested in... Paul Thompson, 1669 Wakefield Way, Sacramento, Cal 95822 has first half of CASEBOOK OF GREGORY HOOD; 3/30/48. Also has several Alexander King talk shows from TV...Mrs. Carol Radgers, 6645 Osborn St, Falls Church, Va 22046 is interested in anything with Agnes Moorehead...Lynn Lichty, Antwerp, Ohio 45813 (RR2) would like address of Sony Corp and Wollensack Tape Recorder Co...Hal Brodsky, 218 Orangeview Lane, Lakeland, Fla 33803 is now trading his collection (and selling) of 2000 plus old radio mystery-detective shows for radio magazines such as Radio Guide...More NEW PROGRAMS from John Truber, 448-21 Ave NE, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2E 1S6: 75 EB AND ZEB, more FRONTIER TOWN, FRANK RACE, 1 CHARLIE CHAN, MEET THE MURPHY'S, THE HAPPY CLARKS, GRAND OLE OPRY from KOCK Billings, Mont, 10 Oliver Gramling's SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT. Also has 45 rpm extended play edition of musical soundtrack from STREET CAR NAMED DESIRE...Robert Lozier, 318 East Houston St, Monroe, NC 28110 is still looking for copies of good shows, 1934 or earlier and good copies of ED WYNN-FIRE CHIEF series. Robert would also like to purchase an Advent Frequency Equalizer if anyone has one or knows where to get one...CORRECTION: Ray Stanich, mentioned earlier has new logs but they aren't LIGHTS OUT. He probably does have some left from an earlier printing, however (BASE). The new logs for 2 stamps are various other series by Arch Oboler from 1939-1945 including ARCH OBOLERS PLAYS, FREE WORLD THEATER, EVERYMAN'S THEATRE, PLAYS FOR AMERICANS... Ross Leslie, RR4, Warkworth, Ontario, Canada wants to know if the following are alive: David Ross, Elois Havrilla, Rialden Farrington and Tom Moore. He and Joe Crysedale host "Radio Reminiscing" on Sat and Sun at 2:30 over CKTB (610) St Catharines, Ontario...Joe Szymanowicz, 3202 West 26th St, Erie, Penn 16506 owns a motel and is a beginner. He is very interested in the ALDRICH FAMILY...Don Fisher, 343 Main St, Bennington, Vt 05201 is looking for source of foreign GRACE GIBSON and LUX RADIO THEATER. For those with 3-headed machines who don't wish to use earphones to monitor, Don suggests buying a Heathkit AA-18 mono amp; or a Realistic SA 100B stereo amp (\$34.95 at Radio Shack); or Radio Shack's Solo 4 at \$14.00 (mono)...Carl Erickson is camping in Mexico all summer. This, and prolonged equipment trouble, has stalled some trades. Contact Carl in September at his Staten Island address... Robert Deckelman Jr, 4 Ziola Ct, Novato, Cal 94947. Robert is looking for all information on Raymond Chandler and Philip Marlowe...CONVENTION ..CONVENTION DETAILS: The Wittes and Sal Trapani are co-chairman of the second East Coast Oldtime Radio Convention. About 60 people attended the picnic at the Wittes on the 9th and very tentative details were formed. PLACE: Hartford, Conn..DATE: November 4th or 11th..PLACE: to be decided...GUESTS: no one definite yet. It will be a one-day convention, possibly 2 if enough guests come. Write the Wittes (194 Wyndcliff Rd, Scarsdale, NY 10583) or Sal (5 Jupiter Dr, Seymour, Ct 06483) if you have any suggestions or possible guests...Alan Dobrey, 8942 112 St, North Delta, British Col, Canada has scripts of the THIN MAN for sale for \$3.00 each. Instead of \$3.00 Alan will take catalogs with over 2000 shows if most are dated...Mark Dereng, 6701 No Edgebrook, Chicago, Ill 60646 is looking for VOICE OF FIRESTONE, HAWAII CALLS, COAST TO COAST ON A BUS, MEET ME AT PARKYS and JUST PLAIN BILL. Also anything with Gabriel Dell and Leo Gorcey and the Dead End Kids...Frank Tomaselli, 646 Bement Ave, Staten Island, NY 10310 is especially interested in ILAM 1939-44, complete or near complete story lines and JACK BENNY.

It is Wed, the 12th and I am waiting for flyer from Bob Proctor. If it comes by Sat, the 15th it will be included. Excuse the delay. So-- until next time..Write if you get work and hang by your thumbs..... Jay Hickerson 6 Koczak Ct, North Haven, Ct 06473 (203) 239-5251 \$3.50

VERY LATE NEWS: As you can see the flyer from Bob Proctor didn't arrive so I will quickly add any last minute items and mail this off. The flyer Bob is sending is an official request from S even Krug, LTJG USNR for old radio shows to be heard on FRAN, the closed circuit radio station on the USS Ranger. Not a commercial station, KRAN's closed-circuit 24-hour a day operations help keep the 5000 plus crew of this US Navy carrier entertained while Ranger is deployed to the Gulf of Tomkin in Southeast Asia. If any of you can send reels of shows contact Bob Proctor, Public Service Office, USS Ranger CVA-61, FPO San Francisco, Cal 96601. They will send 1800-foot reels for you to dub on but due to lack of finances, you will pay the postage but for FPO and APO addresses you can send it 4th class-special handling relatively inexpensively...WBUR, Boston, MA (90.9) on Sat nights is broadcasting several old radio shows between 7:30 and 11:30.....

ANOTHER EDITORIAL: SELF-ADDRESSED-STAMPED*ENVELOPES: Although no one has mentioned it to me directly, through a third person some people are concerned that I ask for SASE for small logs, special listings, and supplements to logs. This discouraged me quite a bit considering the time I am putting into this. If I must ask for a charge for larger logs, etc. I don't ask for a SASE. But for small logs and supplements to logs where I pay for the paper, ink, stencils, etc. I don't feel I should pay an additional 8¢ also, especially since I really am doing this as a favor and will continue doing so. If at any time you feel you paid too much for the network, Suspense, or Lux log I will refund the money. Including the subscription to Hello Again whatever money I make is relatively small and I thought the different prices were reasonable considering the time I put in. I would appreciate it, as I said earlier, if you disagree with something tell ME, not someone else who has to tell me third hand

MORE: NEW ADDRESS: Harold Callanan, 22 Boyd St, Watertown, Mass 02172...Pat Murray, 1756 Washtenow Rd, Ypsilanti, Mich 48197 wants a copy of Richard Nixon's 1952 "Checker's" speech when he was running for VP with Eisenhower. Pat has about 1500 shows...Marty Lewin is several weeks behind in trading but will get all tapes out in 2-3 weeks...Stuart Weiss, 430 Ocean Pkwy, Brooklyn, NY 11218 is looking for a copy of the program, BURLESQUE starring Al Jolson and Ruby Keeler...DEATH: Charles Tazewell, 72, June 26th. He was best known for his story, The Littlest Angel, performed on radio and TV. Tazewell also was a writer for HOLLYWOOD HOTEL and MAYOR OF THE TOWN...Just obtained from Ed Peck a new HERMIT'S CAVE, Author of Murder in very good shape. Also coming are 6 new hours of Jack Benny including a 1937, 2 1939, 2 1951 and others... If I don't stop typing I'll never get this out. It is now 11:30 Sat morning, the latest I've been yet. Most of you should have this by Tuesday...Coming up on reverse side is first of continuing series, "Tape Tips" by Mel Shlank, followed by 8 pages of information about tape. Pardon the 2 page 7's...

JUST one more thought. I have received many letters complimenting me on HELLO AGAIN and the logs and I thank you all. I will continue to write something that is beneficial to collectors and enthusiasts of vintage radio...Keep sending in articles, information about new shows, (does anyone actually have the FAT MAN and SUPERMAN yet-in the US), spread the word, mention Hello Again when writing to someone in it, have a pleasant vacation.....

For my first monthly TAPE TIPS column I have chosen one of the biggest problems for tape traders. I am referring to cross-talk. A lot of different ideas are in people's minds as to the reasons for cross-talk, and I am sorry to say that most of them are wrong.

The biggest reason for cross-talk is leakage within the wiring of one or both tape units. The misalignment of the heads is not the culprit half as often as people think, if ever.

The leakage problem that I refer to is just that, leakage of sound from one channel (track) to the other channel (track). Sometimes this leakage occurs in the pre-amplifiers of one unit or the other and sometimes both. A good way to test to see whether the leakage problem occurs in either the wiring or pre-amplifiers is to take a tape which has material recorded on only one track in the forward direction, put it on your machine and take a single jumper-cable and connect the output of only one channel of the tape unit to your amplifier and see whether you have sound; and if so, if that sound is at a reasonably normal level or at a very low level or no sound at all. Then take the tape unit end of the jumper-cable and switch outputs of the tape unit and again check your amplifier to see whether you have sound at a reasonably normal level, low level, or absolutely no sound at all.

In the preceding test you should get either normal sound or absolutely no sound: if you get a slight sound, this means that there is some leakage somewhere in the output of the play-back unit.

Head misalignment is not the trouble due to the fact that there is a guard band (space) between the tracks. Also between each of the two (2) forward tracks not only is there a guard band, but there is one of the reverse channel tracks. The other reverse channel track is lying on the other side of the last of the forward channel tracks.

Now that I have explained this to you, I think you can see for yourself that if head misalignment were the trouble on a tape having material on all four (4) tracks, you would have some backwards sound coming out of the unit, not sound from the other forward track.

If your recorder passed the output cross-talk check with flying colors and you suspect that you may have cross-talk while recording, the test for this is a little more complicated but not much.

Simply take a tape that has been recorded on both channels in a forward direction, making sure that this tape has no cross-talk, and feed it into the suspected recorder. Take a virgin tape and transfer the material from the first tape to the second. If the newly recorded tape does not have cross-talk, you are home free and clear and you know that all your equipment is A-OK. If your newly recorded tape does have cross-talk and you have already checked the play-back deck for cross-talk and found it to be OK; then you know that the trouble is in the unit that you use for recording.

I am afraid that I cannot help you in-so-far as to what to do if you find that you have cross-talk, as the reasons will vary from machine to machine, but I believe or at least hope that the preceding will have been of help to you. From here you must go to a service shop if you have cross-talk.

That's all for this month; next month I am going to talk about noise reduction when taping.

As many of you may recall, about a year ago I started to write a series of articles pertaining to the many brands of recording tape. I tried to give a brief analysis not only of the quality of tape that one could expect to find from the various brands, but also whether they made just reel to reel, cassette, or 8-track.

Unfortunately, for several reasons, I never completed the article and since that time not only have I had many requests to finish it; but I have also had requests for copies of the first several parts which I did write.

Unfortunately, there are no more copies available and this combined with the fact that there are now more brands available than before, has lead me to decide to rewrite the article at this time. As before, I shall list each brand that I have any knowledge of in alphabetical order. Although I shall list the types of tape each company makes, I am primarily going to talk about their reel to reel tapes as there are virtually no traders that use 8-track and very few that use cassette tapes.

AMPEX

This is one of the oldest tape manufacturers in the country. The company makes all three (3) types of tape (reel to reel, cassette, and 8-track).

They maintain strict quality control and any tape that does not pass their most strictest tests, but yet is still above a certain degree of quality is still sold with the AMPEX name, but at a lower price. All together, I think that there are four (4) different qualities of tape with four different prices.

Their 300 series is the lowest quality series bearing the AMPEX name. Any tape not coming up to the minimum is sold under the name of EMERALD (about which I will have more to say later).

AMPEX is one of the few companies that makes tape in every conceivable type (acetate, polyester, low-noise, hi-output, low print). They also make reel sizes ranging from three inches to fourteen inches. They make several size cassette tapes and several quality cassettes in the same manner as their reel to reel tape. And finally, they make several lengths of 8-track blanks.

Their prices are good, and discounts can be found although it is not sold in a great many outlets. I would not hesitate to recommend this brand to anyone.

AUDIO MAGNETICS

This company has been selling tape for several years now and has three (3) lines.

Their PVC tape is extremely low in price and is of very poor quality. Their polyester tape costs a few cents more than the PVC and quality-wise is a shade better. Their QHF series is their highest price and is of fair quality.

The biggest problem of this company is a combination of extremely poor quality control and poor customer relations. If their attitude on a national level is anything like it is locally, it is a pretty darn sad way to manage a company.

I do not recommend them to anyone unless low price is your only concern.

AUDIO-TAPE

AUDIO-TAPE is made by Audio Devices and is one of the older American tape manufacturers.

As with AMPEX, they have several lines quality-wise (and need- less to say price-wise). They also make just about every possible size and configuration.

They make two (2) lines (regular and low-noise) of cassette tape and also 8-track blanks. Their tape is excellent, fairly priced, rarely discounted, and hard to find. I find this part hard to under- stand as it is excellent tape and I personally recommend it.

BASF

This brand which is perhaps best known by its beautiful, plas- tic case is to the best of my knowledge the oldest manufacturer of magnetic tape in the world. The tape is made in Germany and is of extremely high quality.

Their line is fairly limited, but they do make a combination low-noise, hi-output tape, in addition to their regular line. They also make cassette tape in both regular and low-noise types and 8- track blanks.

Their tape is fairly priced, not too widely distributed, and interestingly enough, discounts are available even though it is not widely distributed. I highly recommend this tape also.

BELL AND HOWELL

BELL AND HOWELL is a new comer to the tape business and at the same time not so new. My reason for saying this is that when this company decided to enter the tape business, they purchased a tape manufacturer on the West Coast.

Their quality was only fair and the price high for the quality. A few months ago they were purchased by AUDIO MAGNETICS.

In talking to one of the area's leading Hi-Fi shops, I learned that apparently other than the difference in the name that may appear on the package, BELL AND HOWELL is the same in quality and a little higher in price compared to AUDIO MAGNETICS. My advise is: DON'T BOTHER!

CAPITOL

CAPITOL tape is manufactured by Audio Devices, Inc., which is a division of Capitol Industries. How's that for confusion?

Their line of reel to reel tape is limited to only the 5 and 7 inch sizes and all the tape is polyester.

Its quality is good and it comes in a very attractive "Mod Design" box. One thing which I like about the box is that when you remove the plastic wrapping, the name and all advertising material also come off. Unfortunately so does the footage notation, so un- less one always uses the same footage you must be careful to note the footage on the box.

Apparently CAPITOL buys their cardboard boxes from two (2) different sources as sometimes the box is a two (2) piece one and sometimes it is a one piece, hinged box.

CAPITOL continued:

A few people have complained to me that the reels of CAPITOL tape sometimes run a little shorter than those of other manufacturers. The reason for this is that some of the CAPITOL tape is actually AUDIO-TAPE which upon quality control inspection has been found to be just a shade shorter than the desired length. When this happens, the tape is packaged and sold under the CAPITOL name. This is not done, however, if the length of the playing time of the reel will wind up being shorter than 60, 90, 120, or 180 minutes (as many of you know, a true 1200 foot reel actually plays some 64 or 65 min.; the 1800 foot reel about 96 to 98 min.).

The quality of the CAPITOL tape is generally quite good and I, myself, use a great deal of it.

They also make CAPITOL in cassettes and 8-track blanks. Even though their tape prices are quite low, discounts can be found. This is a hard brand of tape to find and those of us who sell it are constantly running out of stock and the factory cannot always fill our orders fast enough. For the purpose of dubbing and trading old radio programs, I consider this to be the ideal tape to use.

CERTRON

This company specializes in private labeling.

They make a great deal of cassette tape and, frankly, I am not even sure if they make either reel to reel or 8-track blanks.

Their cassette tape is only fair in quality and it's priced low.

CHANNEL MASTER

This Japanese based company, to the best of my knowledge, only makes low quality, medium priced cassette tape.

To the best of my knowledge it does not even make reel to reel or 8-track blanks.

Most CHANNEL MASTER distributors carry the tape, but very few CHANNEL MASTER dealers bother to stock it.

CONCERT

Unless there has been some radical improvement in the quality of CONCERT tape within the past 6 or 8 months, I personally consider it to be the scum of the industry.

I have it on very good source, that any tape bearing the CONCERT name is tape that has been rejected by other manufacturers as not being of suitable quality to bear their name. In fact, I have been told by people in the IRISH organization that SHAMROCK (please see my comments on this tape) sells its reject tape to Radio Shack which then, of course, is branded as CONCERT tape.

Some of the CONCERT tape is made by AUDIO MAGNETICS and some is supplied by a small firm located just outside of Washington, D.C., which buys tape from anywhere it can get it, splits it down to the $\frac{1}{2}$ inch width of audio tape and sells it to Radio Shack.

These are three (3) of the sources of CONCERT tape and I would not give you a plug-nickel for any of them. The third source which I just mentioned tried to sell tape to me a while back at unbelievably low prices and they were even willing to personalize my name or

CONCERT continued:

name of my choice on the boxes at no additional cost. The quality of the samples that they sent me were incredibly poor.

CONCERT tape can be obtained very cheaply at any Radio Shack store, but I don't advise its use, even if the price is your sole consideration. It can sometimes be too wide, too narrow, have jagged edges, be too long, too short, be so rough that it scratches the heads on your machine so badly that you can hear it as it passes over them, it sometimes has so much of an oxide coating on it that one must clean his machine heads after every passage of the tape. The oxide coating is sometimes too thin: I have seen reels of CONCERT tape where there were long stretches with no oxide coating. I have also seen reels of CONCERT where the coating appears to be pock marked because the coating is so un-uniform that spots are left (this causes drop-out).

My advise is, STAY AWAY!!!

DAK

This West Coast company does not actually manufacture the tape that it sells, what it does is to buy tape that has been used once by large recording studios and recondition it.

According to DAK, these large recording studios will not use the same reel of tape more than once. What DAK does is to buy tape on 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 14 inch reels from these studios; they then demagnetize and degause it, they clean it and rewind it onto 5 and 7 inch reels and sell it under the DAK name.

Much of the tape is originally either AMPEX or SCOTCH, although some of it is made by other companies. When you order DAK tape, if you just specify DAK you will get tape which is other than either AMPEX or SCOTCH. You must specify AMPEX or SCOTCH to get it and it costs a little more.

Apparently DAK feels the AMPEX and SCOTCH are as good as one another as they do not differentiate between them in their catalogue.

In-so-far- as I know, there are only two places where one can obtain DAK tape. One is direct from the factory and the other is from me. I have not had enough experience with this tape personally to be able to comment on its quality although it sounds like it would be good and I have heard from a few people that have used it and they say that it is good. I have also heard, however, from these same people that the delivery time from DAK is very erratic. This information is being written on June 7, and I have just placed my first order with DAK. I shall attempt to stock it in depth (depending on how many people order it, that is), and orders coming to me will normally be shipped within 72 hours.

EMERALD

EMERALD tape is a division of AMPEX or so the people in IRISH tape tell me and I know that IRISH is now owned by AMPEX. The local AMPEX representative disclaims EMERALD. Figure that one out!

EMERALD tape is one of the two reject brands of the AMPEX company. It is only available on 5 and 7 inch reels and only comes, to the best of my knowledge, in 1200, 1800, and 2400 foot lengths of polyester tape. It may be reject audio tape, reject computer tape, reject instrumentation tape, or reject video tape. It is sometimes a little long, a little short (even shorter than the CAPITOL imposed

EMERALD continued:

60, 90, or 120 minute minimum length). I doubt if it will hurt your machine, but seeing as it costs only a few cents less than CAPITOL and is extremely hard to find, WHY BOTHER?

HIGHLANDER

This brand is actually made by SCOTCH and to the best of my knowledge comes only in cassette form.

It is a low priced tape and I believe it to be reject SCOTCH cassette tape, but I am not positive. It is hard to find and that is about all I can tell you other than it is relatively inexpensive.

HITACHI

This very recently formed Japanese tape manufacturer is a spin-off of an earlier company known as HITACHI MAXELL.

It makes a limited line of both reel to reel and cassette tapes. From what I have been able to learn, it is quite good quality-wise, but its price is high and it is hard to find.

IRISH

It may come as a surprise to some people, but if my information is correct, this company is the second oldest tape manufacturer in the United States.

It has three (3) lines of reel to reel tape and they range from good to excellent in quality. Through the use of a specially patented process which they call their Ferrosheen Process, their tape is so highly polished during its manufacture that there is virtually no oxide rub-off or at least none that is visible.

This company makes tape in every conceivable reel size ranging from 3 inches up to 14 inches. Their cassette tape is available in four(4) qualities. As of this writing they do not manufacture 8-track blanks.

A number of years ago they were purchased by the AMPEX company, although they operate as a separate autonomous division. IRISH tape is the distributor and one of the sources of supply for SHAMROCK (which I will have more to say later about).

They make just about every conceivable type of tape ranging through acetate, polyester, low-noise, hi-output, low print, etc; in fact their wholesale price list is three pages long just for reel to reel tapes.

Their prices are quite reasonable even though this tape is fairly difficult to find. I highly recommend this brand, especially for the sake of the heads on your tape machine.

MALLORY

This company which is perhaps best known as a battery manufacturer, recently started to make cassette tapes about which I, unfortunately, know little except that they have four(4) different lines.

No one in this area carries them, and I have not been able to find any supply house in the Northeast that does. To the best of my knowledge they do not manufacture either reel to reel or 8-tracks.

MAXELL

This Japanese based company is a spin-off of the older company known as HITACHI-MAXELL.

To the best of my knowledge they only manufacture a few sizes of high quality reel to reel tape, no 8-track blanks, and two (2) lines of cassette tapes one of which is supposed to be average; whatever that means.

The high quality line which is known as their UD line is reputed by many to be the finest line of cassette tapes available today.

Their prices are reasonable, but their distribution is extremely limited.

MEMOREX

This company which is fairly new to the audio tape field has been a manufacturer of quality video tape for several years.

Up until very recently, their reel to reel tape which, incidentally is just limited to a few sizes, is also reputed to rank as one of the very best in the world. I understand, however, that a short while ago they lost some of their key personnel and their quality has dropped markedly due to poor quality control.

Although I have never personally checked out their cassette tapes I have been told by a number of very knowledgeable people in the tape business (not all of them salesmen either) that their cassette tapes are highly over-rated despite their famous shattering glass TV commercial.

The price is high, distribution is fairly wide spread, and it is fair-traded so discounts are very rare and far between. It is supposed to be a great profit item for dealers.

RCA

This large American corporation is another one that makes audio tape in every conceivable size and type. The quality of the tape is good and their prices are quite fair. The only trouble is, just try and find it. It is probably the hardest brand of tape to find in the country that has national distribution. If you can find a place that sells it and at a price that you think is reasonable, I would not be afraid to buy it.

SCOTCH

This American based company was the first manufacturer of sound recording tape in the country; and in fact, to the best of my knowledge, the second in the world (BASF being first).

They make tape in every conceivable size reel, length and also type. In fact, their wholesale price list is about 6 pages long, that is if you are able to put it all together.

They sell different types of tape through different distributors and unless one is lucky enough to get a hold of the company salesmen (as I once did to see their entire catalogue, one cannot really appreciate how many different types of tape they make). It is probably the easiest brand of tape to find in the country and it is a good tape, although some tape traders don't seem to like their 150-1800 variety, which many other tape traders use.

The price of this brand is reasonable and discounts are easily obtainable. I wouldn't hesitate to recommend this brand especially

SCOTCH continued:

to people who record classical or rock music in which case their new #206, 207, 208, and 209 are especially recommended.

SHAMROCK

This famous brand of tape (at least famous to traders of old radio programs) is not first line tape and don't let anyone tell you that it is. Anyone that tells you this does not know what they are talking about.

I have had many conversations with the IRISH people, who are the distributors of SHAMROCK tape and if anyone should know about this famous brand, they should. SHAMROCK tape is tape that has been rejected by the AMPEX company as not coming up to their specifications (IRISH is owned by AMPEX). It is not (according to IRISH) real "terrible" tape, but it is not recommended unless one uses a large amount of tape and cannot afford anything better (NOTE: CAPITOL tape if purchased through me is only a few pennies more per reel).

SHAMROCK tape can be rejected audio tape, rejected video, instrumentation or computer tape. In the case of audio tape, it might be acetate (but is always labelled as such), low-noise, hi-output, low print, or lubricated tape (made for tape cartridges) or just "ordinary tape". It is sometimes a little too short, a little too long; even SHAMROCK has minimum standards and any tape that does not pass even their standards is sold off the other companies, usually to Radio Shack (which then sells it as CONCERT).

Its price is quite low and can usually only be found in either mail order houses or at big chain operations.

SONY

This Japanese based company only makes a few varieties of reel to reel tape, but they are all excellent in quality. In fact, some tape experts rate them as being on the top in the world.

They also make cassette tapes in all sizes, and regular and low-noise and also 8-track blank cartridges in several sizes.

Their prices are reasonable and discounts can be found, its distribution is not too wide, however. I feel that it is a little too good for our use, but do not hesitate to use it if money is no object. It is an excellent brand of tape.

TDK

This Japanese based company is fairly new to the tape manufacturing business, but according to most in the tape business, it too ranks among the best. They only make about four (4) varieties of reel to reel tape; their "big thing" in-so-far as tape is concerned is their cassette tape.

They make all four (4) sizes (and in fact as this is being written in June, 1972, they have announced that they are about to come out with a C-180 size--sorry no further information on hand). Their cassettes come in four (4) different qualities and their "Super Dynamic" is considered by most experts in the tape field as positively being the best.

Pricing is reasonable and discounts can be found, although they are not large. Distribution of the reel to reel tape is poor, but of

TDK continued:

their cassette tape is excellent, ranking among the best. If you do a lot of recording of classical or rock music on cassette tape, this is the brand for you to use.

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In the preceding pages, I have tried to be as objective as possible.

As most of you that read this know, I sell tape, but I have not let that influence anything that I have had to say in these pages. For tape traders I honestly feel that CAPITOL is the best tape for you to use. I make no more on it than I do on SHAMROCK which sells for a few pennies less, but I would rather see you use the CAPITOL.

For the few of you that trade shows on cassette tape, if you cannot afford the TDK Super Dynamic tape, which sells for \$1.99 per C-60 (I can get it for you a little cheaper), then I recommend the CAPITOL or IRISH #199-C60, the CAPITOL is a little cheaper, but the IRISH does come in a soft plastic box as against a cardboard box for CAPITOL.

Anyone reading this that has any questions, please feel free to write to me; I will answer as fast as I can. Also, please remember that not only can I get a number of brands of tape at discount, I can also get a number of stereo components at a discount. For those of you that like FM, I especially recommend the AR Tuner (which sells for \$210, but I can get it for you for considerably less). The AR receiver is the one for you if you also need a new stereo amplifier. It is an excellent unit and is a tremendous buy for the money.

I also offer you an advantage in that you can charge your purchases from me through your Master Charge card.

MEL SHLANK, 553 Howelton Road, Orange, Connecticut 06477

I can also obtain the Metrotec Frequency Equalizer at a cost of only \$85.00. This price includes postage, insurance and handling.

It has just come to my attention that I have omitted 2 brands of tape. GAF is a relative newcomer to the audio tape business, in this country at least. I have not been able to get hold of any of this brand but I am told that it is manufactured somewhere in Europe by the same company that makes and sells cameras and camera equipment. I know that they make reel to reel tape and possibly 8-track or cassette tape. It is supposed to be a quality brand but I cannot vouch for it.

REALISTIC is another brand that I have omitted. This is another house brand of Radio Shack but of higher quality than their CONCERT. Its price is fairly high and it can be found at any Radio Shack store. I have only used a few reels of this tape and it seems to be all right, but not worth the price. Besides coming in reel to reel, it also comes in 8-track (which I have not tried) and cassette, which I have tried and it "stinks" in my opinion.

Any and all comments are invited